

*Get Involved!*

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**City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department • Volunteer Opportunities**  
**401 N. Morton, Ste. 250 • Bloomington IN 47404**

Participate in the American Hiking Society's 22nd Anniversary of National Trails Day!  
Hiking trails allow us to keep in touch with the natural world while exercising and relieving stress. A wide variety of recreation, fitness, and transportation goals can be achieved with a good trail system.

**Duties:** Volunteers are needed to help improve trails at Griffy Lake Nature Preserve.

**Program Time:** 9 a.m.–noon

**Location:** Griffy Lake Nature Preserve, 3300 N. Headley Rd.

**Age of Volunteers:** 14 yrs. and up (Children under 16 yrs. must be accompanied by an adult.)

**Number of Volunteers:** 25







Touch a Truck

Wednesday, June 11

Rain date: Thursday, June 12

Children get up close and personal with fire trucks, ambulances, buses, bucket trucks, and more. They explore the inner workings or the outside gadgets of the big rigs they have always been curious about!

**Duties:** Do you enjoy seeing amazement on the faces of small children? Come experience it firsthand. Volunteers assist with event setup, monitor stations, and distribute refreshments and snacks to our guests.

**Program Time:** Shift #1, 8 a.m.–12:15 p.m./Shift #2, noon–3 p.m.  
**Location:** Twin Lakes Sports Park, 2350 W. Bloomfield Rd.—parking lot  
**Age of Volunteers:** 16 yrs. and up  
**Number of Volunteers:** 5 per shift

Backyard Beach Party

Wednesday, June 18

Thursday, July 17

Banneker’s backyard becomes the neighborhood super sunny beach! Grab the sunscreen and watch as preschoolers make a castle in the sand, keep cool in the sprinkler, and have fun with beach toys.

**Duties:** Volunteers help event staff with setup and hands-on activities to help bring the beach to Banneker!

**Program Time:** 9 a.m.–noon  
**Location:** Banneker Community Center, 930 W. Seventh St.  
**Age of Volunteers:** 14 yrs. and up  
**Number of Volunteers:** 2

Taste of Bloomington

Saturday, June 21

The Taste of Bloomington is a yearly attraction that brings local restaurants all to one location—Showers Common. The day is filled with great food, great friends, and great fun! Come be a part of it. Volunteers receive a FREE ticket to the Taste of Bloomington to enjoy before or after their shift.

**Duties:** Volunteers assist at the youth activities area. Expect a lot of hands-on interaction with children monitoring the bounce house, leading arts and crafts, and doing face painting.

**Program Time:** 3:30–8 p.m.  
**Location:** Showers Common, Eighth and Morton Streets  
**Age of Volunteers:** 18 yrs. and up  
**Number of Volunteers:** 6–8

Bug Fest

Saturday, June 28

Visitors learn all about amazing insects at Bloomington’s second annual Bug Fest! Go on an insect safari, handle cool insects, make a craft, and participate in a mealworm race or cricket-spitting contest. The day includes speakers and information booths on a variety of buggy topics.

**Duties:** Volunteers engage children in bug exploration. Discuss various types of bugs, lead a bug activity, or work with our speaker series. Share your interest in outdoor education with children. It inspires!

**Program Time:** Shift #1, 9 a.m.–1 p.m./Shift #2, 12:45–3:45 p.m.  
**Location:** Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, 2367 E. 10th St.  
**Age of Volunteers:** 18 yrs. and up  
**Number of Volunteers:** 7–8 per shift

Fourth of July Parade

Friday, July 4

Everybody loves a PARADE! This year’s Fourth of July Parade theme is “Explore Bloomington!” People with lawn chairs in hand head downtown to celebrate while waving their flags proudly! The Parade is brought to the community by Bloomington Parks and Recreation and Downtown Bloomington, Inc., and is sponsored by the American Legion Burton Woolery Post 18.

**Duties:** Volunteers help with road closures and organizing entries in specified holding area.

**Program Time:** 7:30 a.m.–noon  
**Location:** Meet at the Sample Gates, Indiana and Kirkwood Avenues  
**Age of Volunteers:** 18 yrs. and up  
**Number of Volunteers:** 2

Bryan Park Itsy Bitsy Kids Triathlon

Saturday, July 12

Encourage children ages 5–10 yrs. to get active with this fun, non-competitive event! The triathlon includes a 100-meter swim in Bryan Park Pool, 1.1-mile cycle, and .6-mile run. Every child who takes part is a winner!

**Duties:** Promote active living for all ages. Volunteers prepare course, direct traffic during the bike and run legs, and cheer on every participant.

**Program Time:** 8–10 a.m.  
**Location:** Bryan Park Pool, 1100 S. Woodlawn Ave.—parking lot  
**Age of Volunteers:** 18 yrs. and up  
**Number of Volunteers:** 15

Messy Mania

Tuesday, July 15

Kids get crazy with their hands when we let them experiment with all kinds of messy mediums, with no worries about creating chaos in the house! These hands-on activities will delight every youngster who loves to squish, splatter, and fling! We take care of the prep time and clean up, while children experience a morning of head-to-toe, ooey gooeey good times!

**Duties:** Have ooey gooeey fun helping kids make ooey gooeey projects! Volunteers assist with preparation, hands-on activities, and don’t forget the cleanup that follows.

**Program Time:** Shift #1, 8–11 a.m./Shift #2, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.  
**Location:** RCA Community Park, 1400 W. RCA Park Dr.  
**Age of Volunteers:** 14 yrs. and up  
**Number of Volunteers:** 12 per shift  
**Other:** Wear clothing you don’t mind getting messy.

Tomato Tasting

Saturday, August 2

Experience the spectrum of heirloom tomatoes the Bloomington Community Farmers’ Market has to offer. Yellow, orange, purple, green—patrons are able to taste a kaleidoscope of colors and expand their horizons beyond the common red tomato!

**Duties:** Take part in one of the glories of summer as you distribute samples of different tomatoes.

**Program Time:** 7:30 a.m.–noon  
**Location:** Showers Plaza, 401 N. Morton St.  
**Age of Volunteers:** 16 yrs. and up  
**Number of Volunteers:** 12



Drool in the Pool

Wednesday, August 13

Thursday, August 14

Mills Pool is closed for humans, but is open for two more days of swimming for our canine friends. The first evening features dog paddling fun and a jumping contest. The second evening is filled with a variety of entertaining contests, giveaways, and more swimming. Various pet-related businesses and organizations will be on hand during the second night only. In celebration of the 10th anniversary, 10 fabulous prizes for your furry friends will be given away during breaks in the event on each night. Dog guards are on duty to supervise any dogs gone wild but are not expected to get into the pool.

**Duties:** Don’t let the dog days of summer get you down. Assist with doggie giveaways and contests and become a dog lifeguard! Help give our four-legged friends two days to relax at the pool!

**Program Time:** 4:30–8:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Mills Pool, 1100 W. 14th St.  
**Age of Volunteers:** 16 yrs. and up  
**Number of Volunteers:** 5 per evening



Junk in the Trunk

Saturday, August 23

The Junk in the Trunk community rummage sale is recycling and treasure hunting all at the same time! There is plenty of room outside the Frank Southern Ice Arena for many different vendors to set up and sell unwanted furniture, books, clothing, toys, household goods, and more.

**Duties:** Be where the treasures are. Volunteers assist staff in setup and running the event. There also will be time to do your own treasure hunting.

**Program Time:** Shift #1, 6:30–10 a.m./Shift #2, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.  
**Location:** Frank Southern Ice Arena, 2100 S. Henderson St.  
**Age of Volunteers:** 16 yrs. and up  
**Number of Volunteers:** 3 per shift



Play Day

Friday, August 29

Come out and PLAY! Bloomington has once again been named a Playful City USA by KaBOOM!, and we intend to celebrate! We’ll have games, a bounce house, and playful activities for kids of all ages. The evening ends with the showing of the family-friendly movie “Up” on the big screen!

**Duties:** Recall your childhood playing in the park. Assist with various outdoor activities that promote healthy, active lifestyles.

**Program Time:** 5:30–8:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Bryan Park, 1001 S. Henderson St.  
**Age of Volunteers:** 16 yrs. and up  
**Number of Volunteers:** 3

ONGOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

TRAINING: Volunteers are required to attend a volunteer orientation prior to program.

Commit to Health Nutrition Program

May 16–July 25

The Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department has been awarded a nutrition curriculum grant from National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) and the Walmart Foundation. The funds will allow the Department to increase healthy meals served to children, provide evidence-based nutrition literacy to children, and implement nutrition and physical activity standards at the Banneker Community Center, Boys and Girls Club,

**Duties:** Deliver OrganWise Guys, an evidence-based nutrition curriculum, to children (K–6) for eight weeks. Volunteers may also lead physical activity lessons.

**Program Times:** M, 11 a.m.–noon/training/all  
M, 1–3 p.m./Banneker—grades K–2  
Tu, 10–11 a.m./Crestmont Boys and Girls Club—grades K–2  
Tu, 1–2 p.m./Lincoln St. Boys and Girls Club—grades K–2  
W, 9:30–10:30 a.m./Girls Inc.—grades K–2 and grades 3–5  
W, 1–3 p.m. Banneker Community Center—grades 3–5  
Thu, 10–11 a.m./Crestmont Boys and Girls Club—grades 3–5  
Thu, 1–2 p.m./Lincoln St. Boys and Girls Club—grades 3–5  
Thu, 3:30–4:30 p.m./ Ellettsville Boys and Girls Club—grades K–2  
Thu, 4:30–5:30 p.m./ Ellettsville Boys and Girls Club—grades 3–5  
Volunteers are required to attend orientation and a curriculum training prior to the eight week session, and weekly program team meetings during the eight week session.

**Locations:** Banneker Community Center, Crestmont Boys and Girls Club, Ellettsville Boys and Girls Club, Lincoln Street Boys and Girls Club, and Girls Inc.

**Age of Volunteers:** 18 yrs. and up  
**Number of Volunteers:** 1–2 per site  
**Other:** Volunteers must be available for the Monday training and a minimum of one site throughout the eight-week program.

Bloomington and Monroe County Adopt a Stream

June 2014–June 2015

Monthly Inspections

One–year commitment

Adopt a Stream is an all-volunteer program that gives the public an opportunity to be actively involved in conserving and maintaining the natural wealth and beauty of streams that run through public park property owned by the City of Bloomington and Monroe County. Parks and Recreation staff provide training and equipment to volunteer individuals and groups of any size for monthly stream monitoring and annual stream maintenance.

**Duties:** Inspect adopted stream at least once a month. Complete and submit reports on stream condition. Provide general maintenance such as removing debris and litter. Attend a Hoosier Riverwatch workshop and perform water quality monitoring at the stream at least four times per year. Schedule a minimum of one structured work day per year. Staff works with you or your group to formulate a work plan.

**Program Time:** Stream inspections can be completed at your leisure.  
**Time line:** Volunteers must submit an online application by May 11. An orientation takes place in late May. One-year appointment starts in June.

**Location:** Various streams through public property are available for adoption in Bloomington and Monroe County.

**Age of Volunteers:** 12 yrs. and up  
**Number of Volunteers:** Recruitment class determined by number of vacant streams.

Summer Food and Fun at Banneker

June 2–August 1

Help students retain math and reading skills this summer by volunteering to read with students and review basic school-age mathematics. Additionally, facilitate activities in art and science and engage children in active games and play. We ask that you commit to at least one hour a week.

**Duties:** Whether you enjoy working with youth or have professional aspirations to, this service opportunity gives you hands-on experience. Work one-on-one with a student reinforcing math and reading skills and help staff members and community organizations facilitate academic enrichment activities focused on art, science and other subjects.

**Program Time:** 3–4 hours weekly anytime between 10 a.m.–8:30 p.m. (Primary need between 10 a.m.–3 p.m.)

**Location:** Banneker Community Center, 930 W. Seventh St.  
**Age of Volunteers:** 18 yrs. and up  
**Number of Volunteers:** 4–6 per day, Monday–Friday

Adopt-a-Trail

July 2014–July 2015

Monthly inspections/

One-year commitment

More than 30 trail miles in Bloomington’s city parks need periodic inspections and maintenance to remain safe and usable. Volunteers have been valuable in establishing and maintaining our trails for many years. Parks and Recreation staff provide training and equipment to volunteer individuals and groups of any size for monthly trail monitoring and annual trail maintenance.

**Duties:** Inspect adopted trail at least once a month. Complete and submit reports on trail status. Provide maintenance as needed. Do at least one work day per year. Staff works with your group or organization to formulate a work plan.

**Program Time:** Trail inspections can be completed at your leisure. Schedule your trail work day with the Adopt-a-Trail coordinator.

**Timeline:** Volunteers must submit an online application by June 6. An orientation takes place in late June. One-year appointment starts July 1.

**Location:** Various trails are available for adoption.  
**Age of Volunteers:** 12 yrs. and up  
**Number of Volunteers:** Recruitment class determined by number of vacant trails.

Future Stars

Tuesdays and Thursdays, July 22–31

after conclusion of league play

Preparing for higher levels of play or trying out for a high school softball team can be a complicated time for players and parents. Future Stars is designed to get players and parents to slow down, take a breath and approach these situations with clarity, proper planning, and realistic expectations. Future Stars is a training program run by professionals, is completely player-focused, and designed specifically for the player.

**Duties:** Help players participating in the Bloomington Girls Softball program take their game to the next level. During this two-week program, lead skill-building drills, teach softball fundamentals, and help players gain a better understanding of the game. We ask that you commit to both days.

**Program Time:** 6–7:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Lower Cascades Park, 2851 N. Old State Rd. 37  
**Age of Volunteers:** 18 yrs. and up  
**Number of Volunteers:** 10

Leisure Companion

May–August

The Leisure Companion Program is a service in which participants with disabilities are partnered with a volunteer companion who provides additional support during participation in inclusive activities. The level of support will vary according to the specific needs of each individual.

**Duties:** As a Leisure Companion, you facilitate inclusion by advocating for the participant, providing support during activities, protecting the dignity of the participant, emphasizing similarities of participants, creating an environment for success, encouraging independent participation, and most of all, being a supportive friend!

**Program Time:** Dates and times will vary according to program needs.  
**Location:** Location of events and programs vary depending on program registration.  
**Age of Volunteers:** 16 yrs. and up

Bloomington Youth Basketball Middle School

August 26–October 16



Middle school boys and girls (grades 7–8) play on separate teams in this league, which focuses on basketball skill development and applying skills in game situations. The season includes a weekly practice and two games, and concludes with a single-elimination tournament. Practice days and times are determined by the coach.

**Duties:** We are looking for coaches who can commit to once- or twice-weekly practices and one game per week or weekend. Volunteer coaches will enjoy making a difference in the lives of kids and can help develop our next big IU basketball star. (We suggest two coaches per team.)

**Timeline:** *Prospective coaches must sign up by Friday, August 15. Coach selection process completed by Friday, August 22. Selected coaches must attend mandatory coaches training on Tuesday, August 26, 6:30 p.m. at the Twin Lakes Recreation Center. Season runs September 2–October 11. Practices begin the week of September 2. Games begin the week of September 15.*

All selected coaches must complete an online coaching certification course from the National Youth Sports Coaches Association (NYSCA) by first practice. The certification fee for each coach is \$25. The online training is available at nays.org. Scholarships are available to offset expenses associated with the online training. For scholarship information, contact Jeigh Hockersmith at 349-3774 or hockersj@bloomington.in.gov. Returning coaches have first priority for placement. Volunteers should agree to stay for the entire season. Also consider coaching Season II or III!

**Program Time:** Coaches plan and lead one, one-hour practice per week and two, one-hour games per week.

**Location:** Twin Lakes Recreation Center, 1700 W. Bloomfield Rd.  
**Age of Volunteers:** 18 yrs. and up  
**Number of Volunteers:** 10